# RELIEF SOCIETY

VOL. 48 NO. 1 JANUARY 1961 Lessons for April

### THE RELIEF SOCIETY

the first Relief Society President. Counselors were Mary M. Huber and Martha A. Bronson. Elinor Watkins was secretary and Mary M. Probst was treasurer.

Other Presidents in Midway Second Ward and the year of their appointment include: Martha A. Bronson, 1909; Elizabeth R. Huntington, 1929; Ordena Orrock, 1935; Grace W. Sonderegger, 1936; Elizabeth Probst, 1944; Nettie S. Huber, 1949; Alice Galli Probst, 1958; Garnet Probst, Lona Kely, Veon Price, Audry Probst.

In addition to service and welfare work, the Relief Society members study lessons in theology, literature and sociology. They have regular work meetings and also enjoy music through a Singing Mothers' Chorus. They also have a monthly visiting program and in both Midway wards have been known for 100 percent contact with their members.

# A Little Bit of Heaven

Becky Jennings

There's a little bit of heaven On this earth of ours, you know, There's a little in the rosy dawn And in the sunset's glow.

There's a little in the forests tall With branches stretching high, And in a mighty mountain peak Etched against the sky.

There's a little in the singing brook
That tumbles to the sea;
A little in a baby's smile
When he looks at me.

There's a little in a velvet rose Washed with morning dew; A little in the starlit sky When the day is through.

There's a little bit of heaven Wherever you may go, Just look and you will find it In this world of ours below.



### Information obtained from G. J.

### THE VAN WAGONER STORE

"The Van Wagoner store was located where the Coleman Store is now. In those days the Mercantiles carried no packaged goods; everything came in bulk. If someone wanted a quarters worth of sugar, it was scooped up and put into one of the customer's own containers. Perhaps a customer had brought in a bucket of eggs to trade for groceries, then the bucket would be used to carry their purchases. Other items might be wrapped in newspaper since there were no paper bags. The clerks did all this, since the shelves were behind the counters and customers were not to help themselves as they do today. Bananas hung from a hook in the ceiling; meat also hung from hooks, but only on certain days of the week since there was no refrigeration. Whatever piece of meat the customer wanted was cut off as he waited."

Information obtained from HBM

"The building was built in 1906 by Wm. L. and John Van Wagoner, Bishop. It was owned and managed by these two brothers and their sisters. Nancy and Luella Van Wagoner clerked in the store. Later the store was bought by a group of townspeople, with Bishop Jacob Probst in charge. Pr. Parley Van Wagoner was manager for a time. Still later, Dean and Albert Van Wagoner, brothers of the original owners, started another grocery store and meat market. They operated for several years. Valorous Probst operated a market there for awhile. This part of the building in now included in the Coleman Store.

In April 1917, Guy Coleman bought his father's business. In 1922 Guy's brother, Henry S. bought the business and ran it for a year. Guy Coleman then repurchased the store from Henry. Today the store has been greatly enlarged and completely modernized. Guy's son Pete is a partner in the business which is known as Coleman's Store. It is a flourishing grocery store and up to date market."





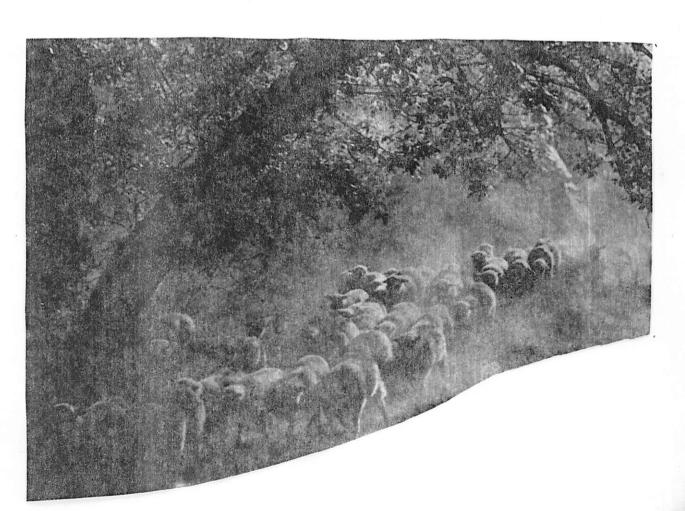


### THE WILSON HOMESTEA D

In the fall of 1884 J. D. Wilson, one of the regional homesteaders of the valley, left his family in Salt Lake City, where he had been teaching school and came to Midway where he builta cabin, Interlaken Estates are now located where the original home was. Brother Wilson then brought his family to live here. In the spring of 1885 he plowed twenty or thirty acres using a team of oxen. A ditch was needed for irrigation purposes, so, together with Fred Remund, another homesteader, he decided to run the ditch from Pine Creek, making the ditch about two miles long.

The ditch had to go over a ridge which is east of the present golf course. The surveyors had mistaken uphill for downhill, but the error was not discovered until the hard work of clearing the brush by hand had been completed. The men decided to make the best of the situation by digging the ditch deeper down in the problem area. However, when the water came down the ditch, it brought all the sand and silt from the upper ground and left it in the deeper part of the ditch, requiring the men to do their digging over many times. Brother Wilson reported that this past experience had taught him the great lesson of doing a job right the first time. This ditch is still used by the farmers in the area.

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### WILSON BROS. HOMESTEAD

"James B. Wilson's first visit to Midway dates back to 1872-73 when during a short sojourn there was a youth, he was to become interested in the farm he had later homesteaded.

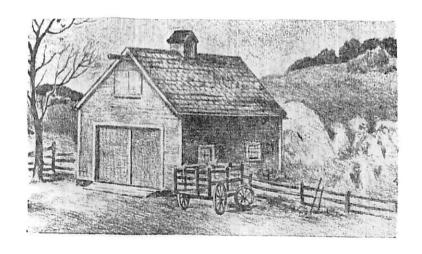
Sept. 29, 1881, Mr. Wilson married Margaret Powell, a cultured young Welsh immigrant.

In November 1884, the Wilson family took up permanent residence in Midway. Mr. Wilson homesteaded the tract of land upon which he set his heart in his youth. In 1885, the young homesteader "broke up" twenty acres of virgin soil with a hand plow drawn by oxen. This arduous toil continued year after year until the entire 160 acres were under cultivation. Beginning in 1885, Mr. Wilson and Frederick Remund, a neighboring homesteader, built the Pine Ditch which had its source about one mile up Pine Creek and extended around the slide hills to the new farm.

In the spring of 1892, the Wilson farm home and furnishings were destroyed by fire. A home in the town of Midway was then established. Mrs. Wilson was a woman of unusually good judgment not only in business affairs, but also on the problems of life. For years she conducted a neighborhood store in part of the two room house. The income from this store, supplemented by the proceeds from farm products, provided a large portion of the family support until the farming and livestock operations of the work of her husband and sons were well established.

From his homestead beginnings, Mr. Wilson and his sons branched out into an expanding farm and livestock program. The farm of James. B. Wilson and Sons became one of the West's leading land and livestock operations. In the 1920's their bands of sheep numbered many thousands, their cattle hundreds of head and their land holdings consisted of thousands of acres and stretched for miles across the northern part of the Provo Valley.

Two grandsons and their wives Emer and Leah, Vern and Merla, and their sons continue the same farm and sheep operation that he homesteaded in 1884. Their father was James Brigham, Jr. and their mother was Lota Huffaker.



### MIDWAY SCHOOLS

"The first settlers of Midway knew how to survive under the rigors of pioneer living, these settlers knew also that the refining influences of life came best through organized schools and in their Church worship. So they built early in their settling days a combination school house and Church building for community use.

The first school in Midway was made of logs, and offered no better facilities that log slabs for seats. Yet, the pupils appreaciated what they had and worked diligently on their stone slates to master writing, arithmetic and other school subjects.

Simon Higgnebotham was the first school teacher, which was built just west of the present Second Ward chapel site. A stream nearby provided water for the school, and entertainment for the youngsters during recess time. Mr. Higgenbotham's main text was the old Wilson Reader.

When Midway was formed from the upper and lower settlements in 1866, the old log schools were becoming a thing of the past. The people desired more permanent facilities, and so by 1867 a school meeting was called to organize a board of trustess and form a new school. David Van Wagonen, James Lowe and John Huber were elected for a term of two years and instructed to lay plans for building a new school.

The south east corner lot of the public square was selected as the site of the new school, and a tax was voted for the new building, and also for the support of the school. Each family was to furnish one half cord of rock at the building site. The school ledger for 1867 to 1869 indicates that money was difficult to raise. However, many people paid their taxes with lumber, potatoes, wheat, wood, shingles, by mending windows, hauling rock or coal, working with a team, assisteing the mason or by paying a few dollars toward the teacher's salary.

Even though taxes were to pay to the costs of the school, many found difficulty in paying them in cash. So more often than not the pupils attended by paying tuition. The teachers received their salaries by living with families of the students and by accepting produce, potatoes, wheat, flour or most and other product that they could use.

The new school was completed in time for the 1868-69 school term, and Attewall Wooton, Sr. was hired as the new principal. He was a well trained educator and possessed a keen mind. He quickly mastered all that his teachers knew, and soon became a teacher himself. After his marriage he became Superintendent of Schools in Wasatch County.







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During the year 1869 the transcontinental railroad was completed through Utah and with the new "Iron Horse" came many non members of the LDS church. In 1885, the New West Education Commission, a society of the Congregational Church, opened a school in Midway. Many pupils attended because there was no tuition charge. The teachers were well trained, with most of them coming from the East.

The New West school was first held in the Van Wagoner Amusement Hall, a large frame building just south of the John Van Wagoner, Sr. home. It had been built by David Van Wagoner as a recreation hall.

In spite of its free tuition, the New West school began to drop in attendance after a few years, and by 1889 it was closed down.

By 1900 the school board obtained a vote to proceed with an entirely new school building. They purchased the property north of the present school for \$168.75 = from the Midway Town Corporation in Feb. of 1902.

In a meeting with the taxpayers in March, the clerk reported that the school district had \$512 in material and about \$900 in cash to begin the new building. The taxpayers voted a tax of one half of one per cent to bring in the \$800 more so that at least two rooms could be ready for occupancy by the winter term. Plans for a six room school were also discussed, but after some discussion were abandoned. The new building cost some \$5,500 to build. Some of the surplus rock and other materials sold to provide money for furnishings, a fence and badly needed books.

"Growing pains" were felt in Midway schools again in 1910, and so it was decided to issue bonds totaling \$7,000 for building, furnishing and equipping an addition to the school building.

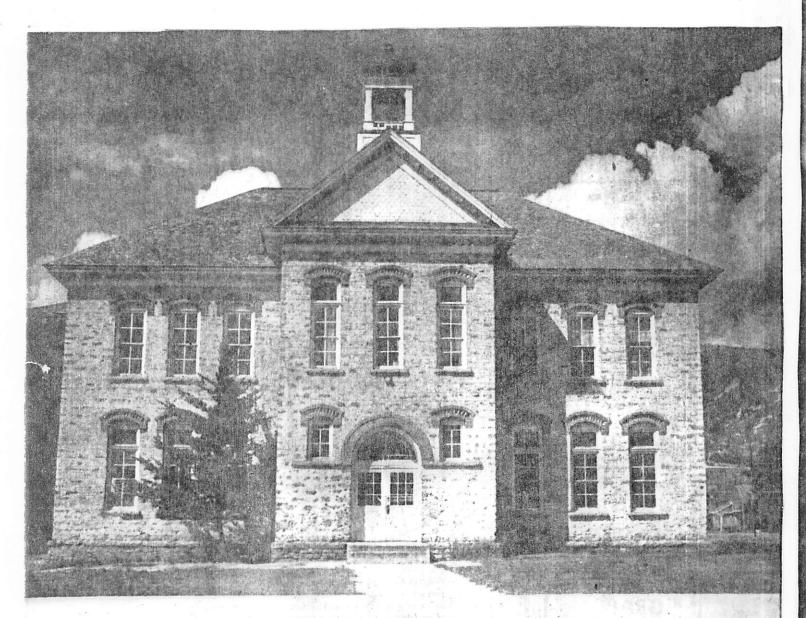
It was on March 22, 1912 that the people accepted a proposition by Midway Town to exchange the old school house and the lot for one half of the public square joining the new building. The new sturdy school house, built of native rock, is still standing today.

The following is a newspaper article about the dedication of the new school house and a copy of the Dedication program. First year enrollment is 425 students.

Information obtained from G. J.

### THE MIDWAY SCHOOLS

"The Midway Schools have an interesting history. The first school was on First South and Center Street and doubled as a recreation hall. It was called Van Wagoners Hall. Later another school was built on the corner where the town hall is now located. This was a two story building with two rooms upstairs, two rooms downstairs and a stairway on the outside of the building. There were eight grades, four upstairs and four down. A third school house was built which still stands, but is no longer in use. It was very commodiuous with eight rooms, a hall and a teacher for every room. The School District consisted of the Midway area alone with trustees, a principal, a superintendent of schools, and only one school to supe



# Farewell to the old school

The old Midway School now stands with its classrooms and bell tower empty. Its students and bell have moved to the new building.

The pot rock building was completed in 1912.

The fate of the old building is still undecided. School district business official John Robert Hicken said the school district will sell

it soon. Hicken said the district wants to keep the ownership "within the community."

He said the city of Midway is interested in buying, but a price has not been set.

Hicken said the school district would like to sell the historic school before winter sets in.

# School ready to open

Construction of the new Midway School is finished. To prove it, and to show people how \$1.3 million was spent on it, the school board will hold a dedication and open house Friday night from 7 to 9 p.m.

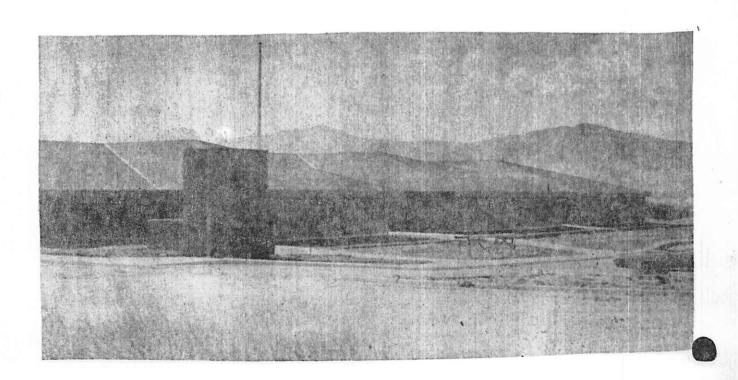
School superintendent Douglas Merkley said the open house will feature a slide show detailing the phases of construction.

"We've got pictures of everything from the groundbreaking to the present," Merkley said, "including one picture of the building when it was filled with snow. It looked like a big icebox."

The new school has a unique floor plan. Every one of its large classrooms opens into a central media center. The media center, which was once called a library when it contained only books, has an array of electronic teaching aids and visual displays.

The superintendent said public response to the new school is overwhelmingly favorable. There is a waiting list of parents who want to send their children to the school.

In a symbolic gesture of the changing of schools, the school bell which rang from the old school has been removed and reinstalled in the new school, Merkley said.



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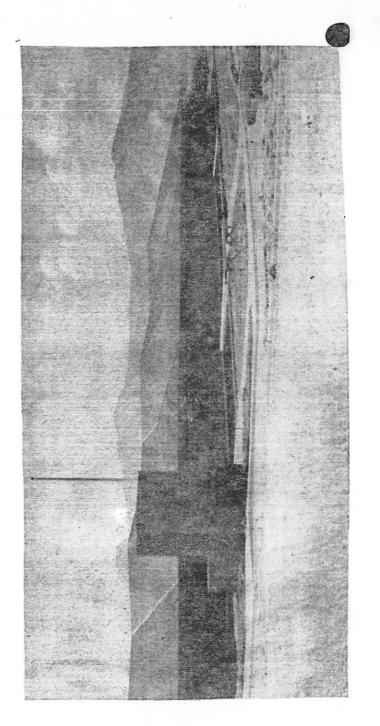
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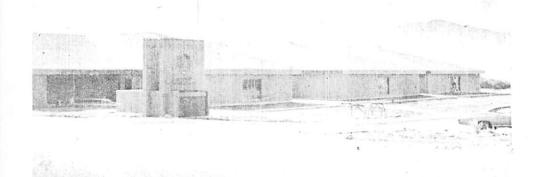
### MIDWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE AND DEDICATION

22 August 1975

Friday

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



Your Children Will Benefit Because

YOU

Voted "Yes"

Tuesday, September 18, 1973

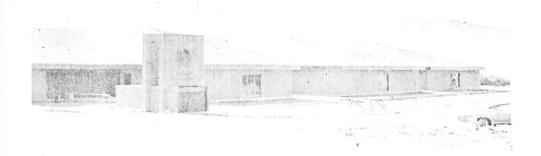
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The Midway Elementary School is located on approximately ten (10) acres of land at 225 South 100 East, Midway, Utah.

The building consists of 32,400 square feet at a cost of \$1,137,159.00 or \$35.10 per square foot.

All the additional costs such as site, furniture, flexible walls, etc. amount to \$174,985.00.

The contract was awarded to J. G. Henry Johnson Construction Company of Salt Lake City, Utah on the 6th day of June 1974.

The building was under construction for fourteen and one-half months or 442 days.

There are thirteen (13) classrooms, a Media Center, Multi-Purpose Room which will house over 400 students.

		closes at 2:30 p.m.) J. Moroni Besendorfer, Principal; Maeda Gertsch and Marilynn Nielson, Kindergarten; Glodwen T. Ger
<u>P</u>	PROGRAM	tsch and Carole Jones, 1st Grade; Marcia Hilton and Sharon Jordan, 2nd Grade;
7	7:00 p.m.	Maude C. Derry and Kathryn Rollins, 3rd Grade; Barbara Brown and Belle Weight, 4th Grade; David L. Hatch and
Welcome	Wa	Raneva Fish, 5th Grade; Brent Kelly and John Besendorfer, 6th Grade; Elise Elisworth, Speech
Opening Prayer .		Johnson (1/2 day) Secretary, and Dean Zenger and Douglas S. Carlile, Custodians.
Speaker		Vern Wilson Vice President rd of Education
Speaker		. Henry Johnson ding Contractor
Midway Band	Mu	sical Selection
Slide Presentation		glas L. Merkley dent of Schools
Musical Selection	n Midwa	y School Chorus
Dedicatory Prayer	r	Reed Ford

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Midway Elementary School; (School starts at 8:30 a.m. and closes at 2:30 p.m.) J. Moroni

President

Heber City Utah Stake

Tour of Building

Refreshments

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### **PROGRAM**

7:00 p.m.

Welcome Walter H. Seiter President
Board of Education
Opening Prayer Daryl K. Gibb Board Member
Speaker Vern Wilson Vice President Board of Education
Speaker J. G. Henry Johnson Building Contractor
Midway Band Musical Selection
Slide Presentation Douglas L. Merkley Superintendent of Schools
Musical Selection Midway School Chorus
Dedicatory Prayer Reed Ford President
Heber City Utah Stake
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Tour of Building

Refreshments

### THE UPPER SETTLEMENT

"One of the significant developments that began in the summer of 1859 was along Snake Creek in the northwest part of the valley. Though no centralized settlements were made at first, such pioneers as Jesse McCarroll, Benjamin Mark Smith and Sidney Harmon Epperson began building homes along the creek.

They chose the location because of the warmth and beauty. Warm springs that abounded in the locale made the soil highly productive. Being near the base of the Wasatch Mountains and in view of majestic Mt. Timpanogos, the settlers felt the peace, beauty and strength of the hills.

During the first summer a crop of grain was planted in the choice lands along Snake Creek by McCarroll, Smith and Epperson along with Jeremiah Robye, David Wood and Edwin Bronson.

The crop was successful and it stimulated the building of more permaenent cabins and corm is along the creek. There were four families that spent the winter of 1859-60 along the Smake Creek.

As spring arrived in 1860 so did an influx of new settlers for the Snake Creek area. There were soon enough families for two community areas, which became known as the upper and lower settlements.

The upper settlement was situated on both sides of Snake Creek, immediately below the junction of that stream with White Pine Creek. This is about 2 miles above the present site of Midway. Because of the numerous limestone formations found in the area, this settlement soon became known as Mound City. Some of the first settlers were Peter Shirts, John & Ephraim Hanks and a Mr. Riggs.

Then as the summer of 1862 arrived there was sufficient community spirit between the two groups that the first meeting house in the area was constructed. It was built of logs with a dirt roof and floor and was erected in the upper settlement or Mound City. It was completed in time for the July 24th celebration. As it was nearing completion, the Presiding Bishop of the valley, Joseph S. Murdock of Heber, appointed Sidney Harmon Epperson to be presiding elder of the upper settlement.

BLOCK 15

Information obtained from G. J.

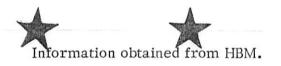
### THE UPPER SETTLEMENT

"The upper settlement embrace Snake Creek Canyon. This canyon got its name from an alleged experience the pioneers had with Indian there. They met for a Pow Wow or council and smoked the pipe of peace while comfortably seated on a log. At the conclusion of their council, they adjourned and the log crawled away! It had been a giant snake."

Information obtained from G. J.

### THE MARSHALL BAND

"There was a very talented man in Midway named Henry Van Wagoner, who was known as a one man band. Incidently, he was abachelor; he never seemed to have time for his music and his wife too. He played a brass drum, a snare drum, a banjo, and a harmonica all at the same time. He had some of the other men of his day join together to form a group they called the Marshall Band. A great number of pople have been members of this band down through the years as one generation succeded another. It continues to be an active band in Midway. Even today one of the members of the band is a Van Wagoner. Ammon Van Wagoner, a blood of the original organizer Henry Van Wagoner. He is a great artist on the drums and the xylaphone.



MARTIAL BAND

"An important aspect of music in Midway has been its martial bands. The first band was organized when the settlement was in its infancy, and band music has continued as a popular entertainment feature since that time.

Members of the first martial band were Henry Van Wagoner, fife; David Provost Sr., snare drum; Luke Provost Sr., bass drum; William Van Wagoner, snare drums, Ambrose Potter, snare; Doc McCarrell, flagman, Later Mark Smith, Jesse McCarrell Sr., Jesse McCarrell Jr. and Joseph Jacobs were added as members.

Henry Van Wagoner known also as an outstanding banjo player, directed the band, and continued his leadership for more than 50 years. A 1918 band notice lists Mr. Van Wagoner as director, with members including Amos Epperson, fife; Lawrence and Emery Epperson, Ellis Epperson and David E. Provost; drums and Charley Van Wagoner, flag bearer. David E. Provost revived the martial band for the Midway Harvest and Swiss Days celebrations."

In the April 1975 issue of the National Geographic there is an article entitled Utah's Shining Oasis, on the first page of this article there is a picture of Midway's Martial Band. The present Martial band consists of Ammon Van Wagoner, Cynthie F. W. Carlile, and Kim Van Wagoner as snare drummers, June Tatton Base Drummer, Lowell Johnson and Earl Dayton, Fife players, Ricky Tatton has been the driver of the truck for the last several years. In the picture next to Ricky is seated Lucy Van Wagoner, Kims wife.

Every year on the 4th of July and Swiss Day you will find this patriotical band out at 6:00 in the morning and going all around Midway waking the town up with the sound of many music. The visitors at the State Park feel that this is aunique experience.

### THE MOUNTAIN SPA

The area where the Mountain Spaa is located was originally a camping place for Indians in the winter time because of the hot water. It was also a favorite place for snakes to hibernate for the winter. When the early pioneers came, they would go there in the spring time and find coils of rattle snakes big enough to fill a bushell basket hidden away in the empty hot pots. There would be a killing by the thousands.

Originally, the homesteader of this property sold it for a sewing machine, a yoke of oxen, and a Indian pony. In later years it was sold for \$100,000.00! The early proprietor, Andrew Luke, established the bathing facility there and originated what was called "Luke Hot Pots". After his passing, his son John took over the business and enlarged it. They had a very nice recreation and restaurant. It was a popular place during the early 1920's through the 1940's. As a young girl Mildred Johnson Larson worked there for  $35\phi$  per hour.



### LUKES HOT POTS

Information HBM

These pots were taken up as homestead grounds in 1875, by Samuel Thompson Tom Mantle and Hyrum Shelton. On March 10, 1888 Andrew Luke and John Busby purchased the pots for \$600 and renamed the area Luke's Hot Pots.

Originally Luke's Hot Pots were paid for with an Indian saddle horseand a second hand sewing machine. It later sold for more than \$100,000, to Joe B. Erwin in 1947. Erwin was one of the first to envision Heber Valley as a national resort area, drawing thousands of visitors and greatly benefiting the economy of Wasatch County. He added a new outside swimming pool to the resort, but eventually his far sighted plans went awry and five years after he purchased it Luke's Hot Pots were once again in the hands of John Luke.

In 1957 the resort was sold to Dr. Willard Draper and Eugene Payne who promptly christened it the Mountain Spaa. Still owned and operated by Mrs. Payne.

### O'NEILS BOARDING HOUSE

"Midway boarding houses in the early mining days were a boon to the men who worked away from their homes. The money these transient workers left in the community was also a welcome asset to townspeople.

One of the more popular boarding establishments was run by Mrs. Agnes O'Neil, affectionately called "Aunt Nanny O'Neil," She successfully managed the establishment for many years, and then when her health failed, a daughter, Mrs. Agnes Ritchie, took over the management.

When the railroads came to the area and transportation facilities improved many of the boarding houses closed.

The O'Neil hotel still stands on Midway's Main Street, used today as a private residence. The present owners are Mr. & Mrs. Frank Slaughter.

In the book, How Beautiful upon the Mountains it states that, "Samuel Cummings Ritchie married Agnes Elizabeth O'Neil in the year 1893. Mr. & Mrs. Ritche were respected and beloved by their townpeople. They lived in Midway for many years and ran the O'Neil, later Ritchie Hotel and Boarding House. They were known throughout the area for their hospitality and excellent food. They were praised for their gentle manner and generous hearts. They were both loyal to their friends and family. They fed and helped many people they knew to be in need."

BLOCK 18

Information from Frank and Martha Slaughter

MRS. O'NEIL'S RESTAURANT

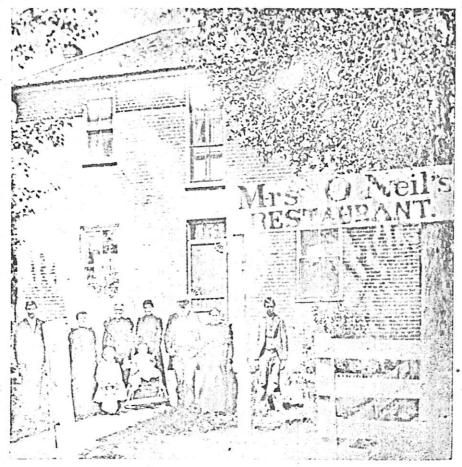
In the early 1880's, a widow, Mrs. Agnes "Nannie" O'Neil, opened one of the most popular boarding establishments in Midway. People gathered in throngs for her parties and celebrations.

Sam Burgi remembers the tasty meals that were served there soon after the turn of the century. A meal consisting of meat, potatoes and gravy, a vegetable and pudding could be had for 25 cents.

Mrs. O'Neil successfully managed the establishment for many years and then around 1906 her health failed and a daughter and her husband, Agnes & Samuel Ritchie, took over the management. They fed and helped may people they knew to be in need.

Vera Anderson recalls going there quite often in the early 1920's to enjoy a large delicious chicken dinner for 35 cents.

The Ritchies operated the establishment wuntil about 1924 and it has been used as a private residence since that time.



One of the most popular spots in early Midway was Mrs. Agnes O'Neil's Hotel and Restaurant. Shown here in front of the building in this 1897 photograph are: left to right, Samuel O'Neil, Ruth Rockwood O'Neil, Helen Ritchie, baby James Ritchie, Aunt Nannie O'Neil, Agnes Ritchie, Samuel Hair. Rachel Hair and Robert Hair.

### Written January 20, 1917, by William Lindsay:

'Tis many a year since first we met To visit Nannie O'Neil To celebrate her natal day And wish weh kind heart "weel" We met a hearty welcome In her cheerful, kindly way And many a happy time we've had With her the livelong day Many of those who used to come Have passed away and gone. Their bodies sleeping in their graves "Til the resurrection morn Aunt Nannie, too, was called away When nearly eighty-seven And everyone of us feels sure That she is now in Heaven Because she kept the laws of God As nearly as she could . And trusted everyone she met As all true Christians should. Those of her friends who yet remain Still hold the memory dear And gladly meet to celebrate Her Birthday every year.

### MIDWAY BOOSTERS CLUB

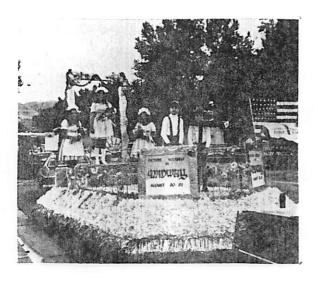
Minutes of the first Boosters Club meetings as recorded in a small notebook and then obscured among other old items in an old desk and discovered again by Guy Colemen in January 1974, Midway Utah.

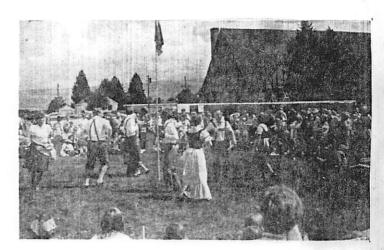
Preamble Committee Meeting Feb. 24, 1931, President Wm. L. Van Wagoner presided.

A discussion was indulged in as to objects of the club. Suggested constitution and by laws and preambles were read and upon a motion which carried Karl Probst was appointed to finish the draft of the Constitution. J. E. Huber appointed to draft the preamble. The above to be presented at the next regular meeting on that 4 March 1931.

Midway's civic service club, the Midway Boosters Club, was organized in 1947. There had been considerable interest shown that year in organizing a civic group and when Joseph Erwin and his wife, Pauline, purchased Luke's Hot Pots, they invited Midway residents to use their facilities in organizing and association. After solicitations by several national organizations, a large group of townspeople met to organize their own club, which became know as the Boosters Club. Reed Kohler was elected the first president, with Francis Probst, as the first vice president, William Haueter, second vice president and Roy Huffaker, secretary-treasurer.

Many committees were selected to serve for the first year, and by September of 1947 the club had organized a highly successful celebration known as the Harvest Festival. A miniature parade was held, and a programmed theme to "Old Timers Live Again" drew many former residents back to the community.





# M'dway Swiss Days

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### FORT MIDWAY

"In 1886 the lives of the people were further complicated with Indian problems. Restless red-men resented the encroachment by white men on their favorite hunting and trapping grounds, and often threatened the security of the new settlers. So, early in 1866 plans were made to abandon the rambling settlements along Snake Creek.

The axiom that there is "strength in numbers" and the wisdom of compromise are probably the two most important forces underlying the establishment of Midway, the thriving community that grew out of the two Snake Creek settlements.

The Indian problems of 1866 made the settlers and leaders aware that the sprawling Snake Creek settlements would be highly vulnerable to the type of attacks being used by the Indians.

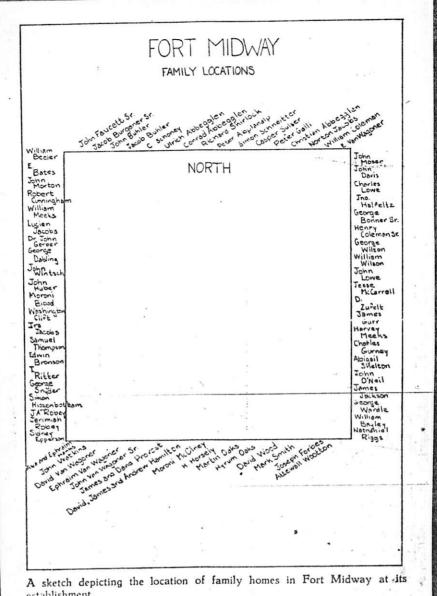
So it was that the upper and lower settlements on Snake Creek were advised to come together as one community. Tradition has it, however, that a warm contest used as to which community should join which. Each saw the virtue of their own position and desired not to move. However, a compromise location was chosen half way between the two settlements, and the new site was called, appropriately enough, MIDWAY.

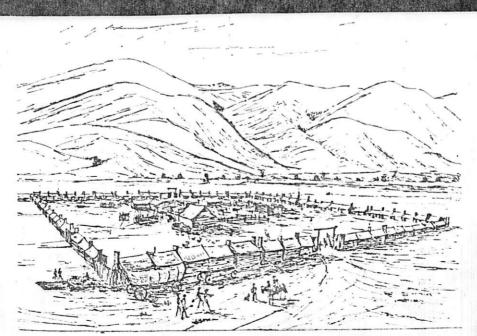
The city of Midway was soon laid out with a public square in the center and ample city blocks surrounding the square.

Then began the work of "forting in". Around the central square some 75 primitive dirt roofed log cabins sprang into existence, some abutting against one another, while between others were erected strong panels of upright posts. In this manner an impregnable wall was formed around the square. Small windows were provided at strategic points to serve as portholes in case of attack. Life in the new fort string was soon conducted under military law, with officers and picket patrols acting at the call of the bugler, John Watkins.

Fort Midway was brought to the people a sense of well provided security, and by bringing them close together helped develope a new happiness and community spirit. Fortunately, the fort was never attacked, though the settlers were ready to defend their lives and homes at any time. The fact that the fort was not molested speake highly of the ability of the pioneers to cooperate in community projects.

The families had become so close that in 1868 the Indian threat was lessened by the signing of a pact, there was no desire to reestablish the so called upper and lower settlements on Snake Creek. Instead, the families gradully took up the land around the Fort square and kept the old fort as a public place for meeting houses, schools and stores."





An artist's sketc' Whitaker depicting the establishment of Fort Midway in 1866,

The first 75 families in the old fort and their locations are as follows:

From the southwest to the northwest corner: Sidney H. Epperson, Jeremiah Robey, J. A. Robey, Simon Higgenbotham, George Snyder, Thomas Ritter, Edwin Bronson, Samuel Thompson, Ira Jacobs, Washington Clift, Moroni Blood, John Huber, John Wintsch, George Dabling,

Dr. John Gerber. Lucian Jacobs, William Meeks, Robert Cunningham,

John Morton, Ezekial Bates, William Beeler.

From the northwest to the northeast corner: John Faucett, Sr., Jacob Burgener Sr., John Buhler, Jacob Buhler, Christian Schoney, Ulrich Abbegglen, Conrad Abbegglen, Richard Sherlock, Peter Abplanalp, Simon Schneitter, Casper Sulser, Peter Galli, Christian Abbegglen, Norton Jacobs, William Coleman and Mrs. Elizabeth Van Wagoner.

From the northeast corner to the southeast corner: John Moser, John Davis, Charles Lowe, John Holfeltz, George Bonner Sr., Henry Coleman Sr., George Wilson, William Wilson, John Lowe, Jesse McCarrel, Joseph McCarrel, David Zufelt, James Gurr, Harvey Meeks, Charles Gurney, Abigail Shelton, John O'Neil, James Jackson, George Wardle, William Bagley and Nathaniel Riggs.

From the southeast corner to the southwest corner: Attewell Wootton Sr., Joseph Forbes, Mark Smith, David Wood, Hyrum Oakes, Martin Oakes, Herbert Horsley, Moroni McOlney, David Hamilton, James Hamilton, James Provost Sr., David Provost Sr., John Van Wagoner Sr., Ephraim Van Wagoner, David Van Wagoner, John Watkins, Alvah Hanks and Ephraim Hanks.

It is a tradition even today in Midway that in the fort string an air of harmony, thrift, refinement, culture and education pervaded that was

unsurpassed anywhere in the West.

The families had become so close that in 1868 when the Indian threat was lessened by the signing of a pact, there was no desire to reestablish the upper and lower settlements on Snake Creek. Instead, the families gradually took up the land around the Fort square and kept the old fort as a public place for meeting houses, schools and stores.

## THE DAUGHTERS OF UTAH PIONEERS

"Women in Wasatch County have kept alive the spirit of their pioneer heritage as they have actively worked in chapters of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers.

The DUP orgainization was begun in Salt Lake City on April 11, 1901 when a group of 54 women met at the home of Anna Taylor Hyde to discuss the needs of a societyto write the histories and achievements of the men and women who carved a great empire out of the barren wilderness and whose creative spirit assured that future generations would enjoy life in Utah and the Mountain West.

In Midway the first camp was organized May 28, 1920 by state president Elizabeth A. P. Hayward and secretary Elizabeth M. Taylor Beer.

Midways Hawthorn Camp, named for the abundant Hawthorn bushes so prominent in the area, was organized at the home of Emily Springer Coleman. Eleven women met with the state officers to effect the organization, and elected Mrs. Coleman as the first captain. Other officers in the initial organization included Martha A. Smith Bronson and Ethel Davis Huffaker, as lieutenants; Elizabeth Ross Huntington, secretary; Vivian C. Orrocks Coleman, assistant secretary; Codelia Hancock Wilson, chaplain; Ella G. Alexander Ross, registrant; Anna Kay Street, chorister; Mary M. Huber, historian and Eliza Bronson Bonner, treasurer.

Those who have been captains of the camp include, Mrs. Coleman, Jean Coleman Alder who served 16 years, Mary B. Tate, Mary Stevens. Rub Provost, Nina Kohler, Vivian Probst, Shirley Chatwin, Elda Kohler and Merle Mangum Coleman Madsen, 1962; Mildred Johnson Larson, 1963-64; and Norma Mangum Clark, 1965; Nettie Smith Huber, 1966-67; Della Winterton, 1968-69, Alice Galli Probst, 1970-71, Nina Mary Davis Kohler, 1972-73; Erma Woodruff Hoggan 1974-76; Alice Jacobson 1976.

